G. R. S. IX-5]

Previous references.

1898

~~191~~ .

(General finance)

File No. 51 of 1898

Serial Nos. 36-50

Later references.

P=36
B

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 36 - 50

Major-**Part-B for** December 99.

SUBJECT.

finger impressions of British Pensioners paid in the State.

Countermarked

W D 88—GPB—50,000—24-7-16

Indexed

OFFICE OF THE
3807
1898 Vol 563
DIWAN OF MYSORE.

From Hon'ble Fisher Hon'ble Resdt

Section G.J

To

Letter No Dis 248

The ~~Secretary to the Govt.~~ of Mysore,

Serial No 31 ~~Rev. and Gen. Depts.~~

1

Dated 31st October 1898

Despatched

Received

General No. 5804

No. 3669-98

Enclosure No.

Enquiring how many Civil Pensioners are paid in the Mysore State and at what places.

References to be marked.

5804.
36698

(1)

FROM

THE FIRST ASSISTANT TO THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE.

Rec. 31/10/98

To

The Dewan of Mysore.

Dated Bangalore, 31st October 1898.

SIR,

The introduction of a system of finger impressions for the identification of Civil pensioners being under consideration I am directed to enquire how many such pensioners are paid in ~~the~~ Mysore State and at what places.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

K S Erskine

Captain,

First Assistant Resident.

Section G.J
File No 5[illegible]1898
Serial No 37.

2

There enter letter No 5804
dated 31st October 1898 from
the 1st Asst Regr in Myste,

No 5[illegible]7
1297 92-11-98

Copy forwarded to the
Comptroller with a request
that the information therein
called for may be furnished
to this office as early as
possible.

B. O.

for Secy.

4222

Gen. 30
Section G. 389 Mis. 65
File No 51-98
Serial No 3

3

E. R. SUBRAYER, Esq.,
Comptroller, Mysore Govt.

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,

Special Audit - Dept.
Pension Branch

Dated 10.11.98

Despatched

Received 15-11-98

General No. 2836

P & A No. 253

Enclosure No. 2

In reply to

SUBJECT.

Enclosing copy of letter
& the accts General
Madras and a list of
Pensioners

References (to be entered only in the Dewan's Office).

15.11.98

Subd. with reference to a draft
18/11/98

SPECIAL AUDIT DEPARTMENT. OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER OF MYSORE.
Pension Branch.

No. 2836 En 2
P&A 255

Bangalore, 10th November 193'

From

E. R. SUBRAYER, Esq.,

Comptroller, Mysore Government.

COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE MYSORE.

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,

General and Revenue *Depts*

SIR,

With reference to your No.5887/1297 dated 2nd. Instant forwarding copy of letter No. 5804/36698 of 31st Ultimo, from the Assistant Resident in Mysore enquiring how many Civil British Pensioners are paid in Mysore, I have the honour to enclose for your information copy of my letter of today to the Accountant-General, Madras, from whom I have already had an occasion to call for such a list, as several Pension Rolls that were issued by him were sent by the Resident's Treasury direct to the District Treasuries instead of through this Office, and on receipt of a complete list, it will be submitted for transmission to the Assistant Resident.

A list, however, of pensioners whose Permanent Pay Orders passed through this Office is herewith sent.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

E R Subrayer

COMPTROLLER.

Fxd. T.L.

'SPECIAL AUDIT DEPARTMENT.
Pension Branch OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER OF MYSORE.

No. 2835
P&A253. Bangalore, 10th. November 1898.

To

From,

E.R. SUBRAYER,Esq

Comptroller, Mysore Government.

COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE MYSORE.

To,

THE ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL,

MADRAS.

Sir,

Adverting to my letter No. 2602/235 of the 18th. Ultimo, I have the honour to request that you will kindly direct the Officer in charge, Resident's Treasury, Bangalore, to furnish this Office as early as possible, with the list of British pensions paid in Mysore asked for in theabove letter, as the exact number of such pensioners now in the roll is asked for by the First Assistant to the Resident in Mysore thro the Secretary to the Government of Mysore, General and Revenue Departments.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

(Signed) E.R. Subrayer.

COMPTROLLER

MYSORE GOVERNMENT

"Copy"

COMPTROLLER.

Exd. T.L.

Section G. 3

File No 51-98

Serial No 539

No 6445

(4)

To

The First Assistant

to the Resident in Mysore.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 5804-366.98 dated 31st ultimo, I am directed to forward herewith a list submitted by the Comptroller in Mysore of Civil British pensioners whose pensions are disbursed from the treasuries in the Mysore State. The list, however, does not include the names of some persons whose pension rolls appear to have been sent by the Acct. Genl, Madras, to the District Treasuries in Mysore through the Resident's Treasury, without the intervention of the Comptroller in Mysore. A complete list has been called for from the Acct. General by the Comptroller, and it will be forwarded to you as soon as it is received.

I have &ca.

20-11-98

Secretary.

Pol 1542

OFFICE OF THE DEWAN OF MYSORE
10740
19 MAY 1899

From G. [illegible]
No 51-
Genl No 40.

To Dewan

(5)

THE ~~SECY. TO THE GOVT.~~ OF MYSORE,
~~GEN. & REV. DEPTS.~~

Dated 19th May 1899

Despatched

Received

General No. 2168
No. 366-98

Enclosure No. 1

Forwarding a copy of Govt. of India Resolution & requesting to make arrangements for the taking of the finger impressions of British Govt pensioners paid within the limits of the State.

Reference noted
Sd
20/5/99

References to be marked.

Submitted with a draft
letter
20/5/99

(5)

No. 2168 Enc 1 Rec'd 19/5/99
3669 8

FROM

THE FIRST ASSISTANT TO THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE.

To

The Dewan of Mysore.

Dated Bangalore 19th May 1899.

SIR,

With reference to your letter No. 6448 Pol: 220 dated the 22nd November 1898, I am directed to forward a copy of the marginally noted Resolution of the Government of India, and to request that arrangements may be made for the taking of the finger impressions of British Government pensioners paid within the limits of the State.

No. 4294-P. dated 1st October 1898. Finance & Commerce Department.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

your Most Obedient Servant

1st Assistant Resident.

Form G.7

No 51-98

Serial No 41

To,

The Comptroller to the
No 13304 Gallipoli Govt
Dy 2822
Dy 23 May 1899.

~~Have cordial acknowledgments of the~~

With reference to correspondence ending with Compt's letter No. 2836 P&A. 255 of 10th Nov. 98, has the honor to forward herewith a Copy of the Resolution of the Govt. of India No. 4294 P of 1st October last, and to request that arrangements may be made for the taking of the finger impressions of British Govt. Pensioners paid within the limits of the State, and a report submitted to this Office.

H.D.

26/5/99

For Secy

mlby
20/5/1899

Rec: Dept.

Please put the reference on this subject for submission to Under Secretary.

BTH
15/6/99.

Papers obtained
+ Sub

BTH
15/6/99.

Rec: Branch papers returned to that Branch by M.R.
~~Kids Issue Book~~
MK
20/6

Mun 3386.

OFFICE OF THE DEWAN OF MYSORE
11521
14 J 1899

7

Await the proceedings & report from Comr. Ry

Return the Revenue Dept file to that Branch
KK 16/6/99

Rev: D

From The Comptroller.

No 54-98.

To

Serial No 42

THE SECY. TO THE GOVT. OF MYSORE,
GEN. & REV. DEPTS.

Dated 10th June 1899

Despatched

Received

General No. 7823

No. 760

Enclosure No.

Informing that the instructions in re finger impressions of Govt. Pensioners have been circulated to the Dy Comrs of Distts, on 28th Inst, for working the system in the Treasuries.

—

References to be marked.

Reference Letter

15 6 99.

Subject
The report promised is awaited.

15/6/99 There is some correspondence going on in the Rev (Genl) Branch on this subject. Please obtain it for me KK 15/6/99

Special Audit Department

7

No. 7823 / 750

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER OF MYSORE.

Bangalore, 10th. June 1899. ~~-189-~~

From

E. R. SUBRAYER, Esq.,

Comptroller, Mysore Government.

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,

Gen. & Rev. *Dept.*

Sir,

With reference to your docket No. 13304/2822 dated the 23rd. Ultimo, on the subject of taking finger impressions of British Government Pensioners, I have th honour to inform you that copies of circular He. instructions issued by the Accountant General Madras, with that of rules for the record of finger prints were received through the Officer in charge Resident's Treasury Bangalore, and circulated to the Deputy Commissioners of Districts in April last for workin,, the system in the Treasuries. - A report will be called for of the result and submitted to your Office.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

Comptroller.

A.M.L.

From

E. R. SUBRAYER, Esq.,
Comptroller, Mysore Govt.

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
_____ *Dept.*

Dated

Despatched

Received

General No. _____
No.

Enclosure *No.*

In reply to

SUBJECT.

References (to be entered only in the Dewan's Office).

Pol 308

8

Crl
1999
31-8-99 1899

Section G. 7 From The First Assistant to the
No 51-98 Resident in Mysore.
Serial No 43.
To Dewan

THE SECY. TO THE GOVT. OF MYSORE,
GEN. & REV. DEPTS.

Dated
Despatched 30/8/99
Received
General No. 8837 13304
No. 366-98 Mis 2822

Enclosure No.

23/5/99

Reminder, re the finger impressions of British Govt pensioners paid within the limits of the Mysore State.

Refers Put up with a draft.

Ref erences to be marked.

31/8/99.

No. 3887/366-98

31/8/99 (8)

FROM

THE FIRST ASSISTANT TO THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE.

To

The Dewan of Mysore.

Dated Bangalore, 30 August 99

SIR,

Subject
Finger impressions of British Government pensioners paid within the limits of the Mysore State.

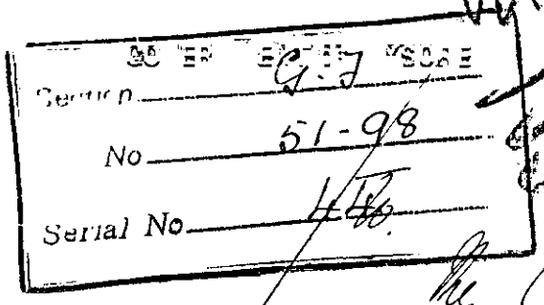
I am directed to invite attention to the communication noted on the *margin and to ~~request the favor of~~ inquire what, if any action has been taken in the matter.

No. 2168 dated 19th May 1899.

Subsequent Reminder
No. dated

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

First Assistnt to the Resident.



Mysore 1899

9

No 3087 / 1859 94-4-11

The Comptroller & the Govt of Mysore.

His No 7823/750 dated 10th June 1899 stating that a report on the working of the system of taking finger impressions of British Govt pensioners paid within the limits of the Mysore State will be called for and submitted to Govt.

With reference to the above, have the honor to enquire when the report may be expected, as the action taken in the matter has to be communicated to the Residency.

Bangalore 2/12/99
for Secy

(10)

ection	G. 7
ile No	51-98
Serial No	46.

1899.
2 drafts

The P. A. Resident
in Mysore.

No. 3088
Pol 88 9/1/99

Sir,

In reply to your letter
No. 3837/366.98 dated the 30th August
last, enquiring what action has
been taken in the matter of
taking finger impressions of
Brit: Govt pensioners paid
within the limits of the Mysore
State, I am directed to for-
ward for your information
a copy of letter No. 7823/750
dated the 10th June last from
the Comptr to the Govt of
Mysore ~~in General Secretariat~~
"the Controller has
been asked to expedite the
~~by that Officer is awaited~~

Report promised by him.
~~and he will be Communi-~~
~~cated by you as soon as~~
~~it is received in this Office.~~

I have &c

31/8/49
for Secy.

(11)

Vol. C/78

Page G. 7

No. 51 From 8

Serial No. 46.

1899 3989
30.10.99

Re L. A. Court in Mysore

To

THE SECY. TO THE GOVT. OF MYSORE,
GEN. & REV. DEPTS.

Dated

Despatched 28.10.99

Received

General No. 4830
No.

Enclosure No.

Reminder re report on the taking of finger impression of Brit. Govt pensioners paid within Mysore State

References to be marked.

Refers perhaps with reminder dft
Rtd to the Compte
31/10/99

(11)

No. 4830
366-98

30/10/98 KL
GR. 1/11

FROM

THE FIRST ASSISTANT TO THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE.

To

The Dewan of Mysore.

Dated, Bangalore, 28th October 1899.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of letter no: 3088/Pol. 88, dated the 1st September 1899, from the Secretary to the Government of Mysore, General and Revenue departments, regarding the taking of finger impressions of British Government pensioners paid within the limits of the Mysore State, and to enquire when the report of the Comptroller to the Government of Mysore, thereon promised, may be expected.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

[illegible]
1st Assistant Resident

P+A 672

OFFICE OF THE
4448
07/14-11-99

Section G. J
From
File No 51-98
Serial No 47.

189

The Comptroller.

13

To

THE SECY. TO THE GOVT. OF MYSORE,
GEN. & REV. DEPTS.

Dated 11th Nov. 1899.

Despatched

Received

General No. 2344

No. P+A. 283

Enclosure No.

Stating that he has sent for a report from all the Dy Commrs on the working of the system of taking finger impressions, since it was introduced.

—

Reference Section
B&L
17-11-99

References to be marked.

The Record File is required - Obtain & put up at once

17/11/99

File put up. 17/11

2344

P & A. No 283.

Special Audit DEPARTMENT.
Pension Branch

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER, MYSORE GOVT.

Bangalore, 11th November 189 9

13

From

E R. SUBRAYER, Esq.,

Comptroller, Mysore Govt.

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,

General & Revenue Depts.

Sir,

In reference to your docket No $\frac{3067}{859}$ dated 1st September 1899 calling for a report on the working of the system of taking finger impressions of British Government pensioners, paid within the limits of the Mysore State, I have the honor to state that since sending you my letter No $\frac{7823}{750}$ dated 10th June 1899 I received your office Memorandum No. $\frac{7495-503}{R.\ 3416.}$ dated 21st April 1899 which was first circulated to all the Deputy Commissioners and then forwarded to me; and finding that the same subject was dealt with in this circular and the opinion also of the Deputy Commissioners is requested therein, I thought it was unnecessary to call for a separate report from

DEPARTMENT

189

From

The Comptroller, Mysore Govt.

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,

Dept.

Dated

Despatched

Received

No.

No.

SUBJECT MATTER.

from them and contented myself with
expressing my opinion* in my letter
Subst- No. 769/90 dated 9th August 1899. I have
however written this day to all the
Deputy Commissioners calling for a
report on the working of the System
of taking finger ~~impressions~~ prints since
it was introduced.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant

E. Norbrygge
Comptroller

D. V.

Section G.7
No 51-98
Serial No 48.

14

To

The Comptroller

to the Government of Mysore.

Dated Bangalore, 20 November 1899.

No: 5879
In 1771

His letter No.2344/P&A.283 dated the 11th instant, promising the early submission of the report called for by the Residency regarding the taking of finger impressions of British pensioners paid from the Mysore State.

Has the honor to request that the promised report may be expedited as it has to be forwarded without further delay to the Residency.

The Resolution of the Govt. of India, No.4294 P. dated 1st Oct. 1898, forwarded with this Office No.13304/Mis.2822 dated 23rd May 1899, should be returned with his reply.

By Order,

20/11/99

Secretary.

~~1381~~
P&A 775

5262
D/6-12-99.

Section G.7
No 51-98
Serial No 49.
From

DEPARTMENT 16

189

The Comptroller, Mysore Govt.

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
Genl & Rev Depts.

Dated 5-12 Dec. 1899
Despatched
Received

No. 2809
No. P&A 327 Sm: 2.

SUBJECT MATTER.

Endorsing copies of the reports received from the Dy Comrs, Treasury Depts of the several Districts in response on the working of the system of recording finger impressions of Por: pensioners at their Treasury

Subd: with reference to the draft of the Resident
6/12

7/12/99

Pol 29
6/12/99 G Ref Cell
Urgent
2809 Ex. Secy
Dfa 327

Special Audit DEPARTMENT.
OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER, MYSORE GOVT.
Bangalore, 5th December 1899.
6

From

E. R. SUBRAYER, Esq.,

Comptroller, Mysore Govt.

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
General and Revenue Dept.

Sir,

In reference to the last para of my letter No. 2844/283 of the 10th ultimo and as requested in your of the 20th November No. 5879/1771, I have the honor to enclose copies of the reports received from the Deputy Commissioners Treasury Department of the several Districts in Mysore on the working of the system of recording finger impression of British Prisoners at their Treasury.

2. The system appears to be working satisfactorily

and its usefulness appreciated.

The Government of India
No. 4294 P. dated 14th
October 1898 asked for
in the docket under reference
is returned herewith.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant.

Comptroller

Precis of Reports.

Bangalore.

Instructions were issued to all Taluq Amildars agreeably to the Madras Accountant General's printed rules, calling upon them to have the finger impressions of the left hand recorded in the Collector's Half of the Permanent Payable Order of British pensioners, and make a report of the same. Their several replies shewed that the finger impressions were so recorded. In only one instance the finger prints of the right hand were taken, as the pensioner was reported by the Amildar to have lost his left hand. This course was only taken after obtaining permission of the Accountant General Madras for the impressions being so recorded. The rule has been complied with in the case of all British Political pensioners who are paid their pensions in this District, & seems to work well.

Kolar. The record of finger prints is taken for the new pensioners, but not to old pensioners. I consider that the record would work well if it is is is extended upon for all the new as well as old pensioners.

Tumkur. The finger prints of the 4 British pensioners paid in the Treasuries of this District have been obtained on both halves of the pension Certificate in the presence of the respective paying Officers and duly attested by him.

Shemoga. The system of recording finger prints in the case of British pensioners is working correctly since its introduction.

Kadur. The system of recording finger prints of British pensioners

Kolar:- The record of finger prints is taken for the new pensioners, but not to old pensioners. I consider that the record would work well if it is ~~is~~ this is done for all the new as well as old pensioners.

Tumkur:- The finger prints of the 14 British pensioners paid in the Treasuries of this District have been obtained on both halves of the pension Certificates in the presence of the respective paying Officers and duly attested by him.-

Shemoga:- The system of recording finger prints in the case of British pensioners is working correctly since its introduction.

Kadur:- The system of recording finger prints of British pensioners

is working satisfactorily from the time of its introduction, there being only two pensioners in this District.

Chitaldroog.- The number of British pensioners drawing pensions in this district is very small, and does not go beyond 13 or 14, and as they have been residing here almost permanently, there has hardly been any difficulty in identifying them, and with the aid of finger prints, the business of identification is much facilitated, and is highly useful to an officer who has to identify the pensioners for the first time.

Mysore.- Finger prints of all the British pensioners paid in this Treasury with the exception of one who is at Secunderabad have been recorded in accordance with the instructions contained in the printed

printed Rules received with Comptroller's memo dtd 1717 of the 3rd inst. As regards pensioners paid in Taluq treasuries the amildars have been called upon to furnish the necessary information and their reports will be duly forwarded to the Comptroller.

Hassan. — The system is no doubt a very useful one and minimises the fraud of any false person appearing and receiving the payment of pension. It may also be stated here that almost all such pensioners will have been sufficiently acquainted with the Officials of the Treasury dept. no sooner they begin to draw their pension at any treasury. The system of recording finger prints is an additional means of identifying pensioners apart from other means, which is only to be resorted to in the case of new pensioners.

C.M.
4/12/99.

Comptroller
in Mysore

No. 4294-P.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

FINANCE AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT.

PENSIONS AND GRATUITIES.

RESOLUTION.

Simla, the 1st October 1898.

READ—

Letters in the Finance and Commerce Department to the Comptroller and Auditor-General No. 5862—P., and to the Government of Bengal, No. 5863—P., dated 20th December 1895, proposing the experimental introduction into Lower Bengal, for the purpose of identifying Government pensioners of Sir William Herschel's system of identification by finger impressions

Letter from the Comptroller and Auditor General, No. 2053, dated 12th January 1898, reporting upon the working of the system for one year in Lower Bengal, and suggesting the general introduction of the system for the purpose of identifying Government pensioners.

OBSERVATIONS.—The system of identification by finger impressions had already been in use in Bengal to some extent in connection with the registration of documents and the identification of criminals, when in December 1895, the Government of India proposed that, with the concurrence of the Local Government, it should be introduced as an experimental measure throughout that province for the purpose of identifying Government pensioners. The Government of Bengal accepted this suggestion, and rules were formed and the system actually introduced at all treasuries in the province in November 1896. The Government of India have now received the reports of a full year's working, and are gratified to find that the system has already achieved such a measure of success as justifies its extension to other provinces. It is found that, with the exercise of a little care, the system is easy to work, the chief difficulty experienced at first—that of obtaining distinct impressions—being one that disappears with practice; that in all but exceptional cases it is accepted by the payees without demur; and that it affords a sound and easily applied check against fraudulent personation. The reports show that at several places there is an inclination to abandon the check, on the ground that the pensioners are few and are locally known to the Treasury officials. This however indicates some misapprehension. The great value of the scheme lies in the fact that it secures a permanent record of identification, which is independent of the personal knowledge of individual Treasury officials. Whether these officials use the impression or do not use it as an actual means of identification, the record of the mark should be carefully preserved, because it is by this means alone that it can be discovered whether, within a considerable period of time, there has been no change of identity.

RESOLUTION.—The Governor-General in Council desires to recommend to all Local Governments and Administrations the adoption of this system as a permanent measure, for the identification of pensioners in the Civil Department in British India generally. Rules for the identification of such pensioners, which are in force in Bengal, are annexed, together with a copy of the letter from the Comptroller and Auditor General, dated 12th January 1898, read in the preamble, and its enclosure.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to all Local Governments and Administrations, to the Departments of the Government of India (except the Home Department), to all Heads of Departments subordinate to this Department, and to all Accountants General and Comptrollers.

Ordered, also, that a copy be forwarded to the Home Department, with reference to the endorsement from that Department, No. 288, dated 15th June 1898.

J. B. BRUNYATE,
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of India

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

FINANCE AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT.

———○:o:○———

Rules for the identification of pensioners by means of thumb-impressions.

1. All applicants for service pensions with the exception of those hereinafter mentioned in rule 10, shall, at the time of preparation of their applications for pension, make, before the head of the office, in the first page of their application for pension in the space provided therein for the purpose, an impression of the ball of the thumb of the left hand.

2. An impression similar to that mentioned in rule 1 shall at the same time be taken on a slip of paper and shall be attached to the application for pension.

3. These impressions will be sent together with the pension papers to the officer reporting on the claim to pension and be forwarded by him to the authority who has to sanction the pension. They will thereafter be forwarded by the sanctioning authority to the officer who audits payments of the pension.

4. The impression given on the application for pension will serve in the auditing office as a permanent record of the impression, while that given on the separate slip will be pasted on the Disbursing Officer's half of the Permanent Pay Order.

5. In the case of non-service pensioners, the thumb-impression shall be made on the Descriptive Roll in presence of the officer preparing the roll.

6. In the case of non-service pensioners an impression shall also be taken, by the office preparing the Descriptive Roll, on a separate slip of paper, and this shall be sent together with the roll to the auditing officer.

7. In the case of non-service pensioners, the impression given on the Descriptive Roll will form the auditing officer's permanent record, and that given on the slip will be pasted on the Disbursing Officer's half of the Permanent Pay Order in the space provided therein for the purpose.

8. The impression given on the separate slip will, in the case of both service and non-service pensions payable at the presidency town of Calcutta, be pasted against the appropriate number of the Register of permanent Pay Orders.

9. On the first appearance of a pensioner on or after April 1st of each year the Disbursing Officer will, except in the cases of pensioners mentioned in rule 10, take an impression of the thumb of the pensioner's left hand on his pension bill, and besides identifying the pensioner from the other particulars given in the Disbursing Officer's half of the Permanent Pay Order or in the Audit Register (as the case may be), identify him from a comparison of the impression given on the bill with that pasted on the permanent Pay Order or in the Audit Register, and in case of difference in the two impressions will refer the matter to the officer before whom the impression pasted in the Permanent Pay Order or in the Audit Register had been made.

10. Except Native Princes, European ladies, persons who have been gazetted officers and those specially exempted by Government (these exceptions being made on the ground that there can be no difficulty in future identification) all pensioners shall be liable to the operation of these rules.

11. Purdah ladies and illiterate pensioners shall give a thumb-impression on their bills before the person granting the life certificate, or in the case of illiterate pensioners who personally attend the paying office before the Disbursing Officer.

12. On the renewing of a Permanent Pay Order, the original impression shall be cut off from the old and attached to the new order.

13. Impressions should be taken in the following manner:—

A small quantity of ordinary printer's ink (which will be supplied by the Superintendent of Stationery, Calcutta), mixed with a very small quantity of sweet-oil, should be well rubbed with an India-rubber roller on a tin slab until a very thin even layer is formed. The ball of the thumb of the left hand of the pensioner, after being wiped, should be laid on the inked slab and rolled from side to side (not rubbed) until sufficiently inked (this can be learnt from experience) and then lightly and carefully rolled on the paper on which the print is to be taken in such a way that the pattern of the whole of the ball of the thumb from side to side is clearly impressed on it. It must be specially borne in mind that any *side* movement, either at the time of applying or removing the thumb, will cause a smudge and spoil the impression.

14. In the case of pensioners now on the pension list, Disbursing Officers will, on the next occasion on which each pension is paid and after careful identification of the pensioner, take his or her impression on the Permanent Pay Order or Audit Register.

15. A thumb-impression should also be taken in the Service-books of persons in service in the space for "Distinctive Marks." In all cases when an officer is sent for medical examination, the examining Medical Officer or Board should be asked to obtain the thumb-impression of the candidate for appointment, leave or pension on the medical certificate. This last impression should afterwards be verified with that in the Service-book by the head of the office.

No. 2053, dated 12th January 1898.

From—The Comptroller-General.

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Finance and Commerce Department.

With reference to correspondence ending with your letter No. P. 3169 of 23rd July 1896, I have the honour to forward herewith copy of a letter No. P. 794 of the 30th December 1897, from the Accountant-General, Bengal, reporting upon the working for one year of the system of identification of Government pensioners by means of thumb-impressions. The report seems to show that no real difficulty is felt in the working of the system, and that it is a safeguard against fraud. For these reasons and also because the system has been adopted in the case of Military pensioners, it seems to me that the system which was introduced only as an experimental measure, may be considered to have passed that stage and that the time has arrived for prescribing the general introduction of the scheme.

No. P. 794, dated 30th December 1897.

From—The Accountant-General, Bengal.

To—The Comptroller-General.

With reference to your endorsement No. 684, dated 14th August 1896, forwarding a copy of the orders of the Government of India for the introduction of Sir William Herschel's system of securing the identification of persons by means of thumb-impressions, for the purpose of identifying Government pensioners, with a copy of the rules approved by the Government of India for the purpose, and requesting me to submit a report after the system has been in force for a year, I have the honour to report as follows.

2. The system was brought into operation in November 1896 when the necessary materials were supplied to the Treasury Officers by the Superintendent of Stationery. The thumb-impressions of pensioners already on the list were taken in November 1896 and the succeeding months, under rule 14, in Audit registers at the Presidency Treasury and on Permanent Pay Orders in the mofussil treasuries. The impressions of new pensioners were taken, under rule 9, at the times of the first payments of the pensions and compared at the Presidency with the impressions given in the pension applications, and in the mofussil with the impression pasted on the Permanent Pay Order under rule 7.

3. Purdah ladies and illiterate pensioners were required to give their thumb-impressions on each monthly pension bill under rule 11; but most purdah ladies belong to the Nizamut, Oudh, and Mysore families, and as these have been exempted by Government under rule 10 only a few purdah ladies now give their impressions.

4. The system has worked well and generally no difficulty has been felt either in the taking of the thumb-impression by the Disbursing Officer or in the giving of it by the pensioner.

5. In some cases the impressions taken were not clear, but this was due to defects in the preparation of ink or the ball of the thumb being very smooth.

6. The system is very useful and effective as is proved by cases in which the impression given on the bill was found to differ from the permanent impression, and the latter was found on reference to the authority before whom it was taken to be the impression of the thumb of the right hand instead of the left.

7. I have the honour to enclose a precis of the reports received from the Collectors and Deputy Commissioners in Bengal on the working of the system at their treasuries. In these reports there is a general consensus of opinion that the system should be made permanent, being useful as a check against impersonation, although at some of the treasuries its usefulness has not been realised owing to the number of pensioners being small and the pensioners being known to the Disbursing Officers.

Champarun.—Pensioners are identified by comparing the thumb-impression taken on the pension bill with the standard impression affixed to the Permanent Pay Order. The system has worked well; nothing has been found against it.

Monghyr.—The system will be a great help in suspicious cases when the Treasury Account Staff and the pensioners get accustomed to the mode of taking impressions; at present impressions are rarely free from smudges and blotches and the defects due to side movements and exertion of unequal pressure. The use of a magnifying glass is recommended.

Balasore.—The system has worked well.

Bogra.—The impressions are taken monthly on pension bills, and on comparison with the permanent impressions on the Permanent Pay Orders are found to agree. The are considered more useful in the case of illiterate pensioners, and are a means of securing the personal attendance of pensioners. The system has caused no inconvenience.

[redacted] *Division.*—The system has worked satisfactorily. If the impression [redacted]y Oorder is clear their will be no difficulty in the identification of an un[redacted]y a new paying officer.

[redacted]*i.*—The system is working well and its great advantage is to secure better iden[redacted]

Mymensing.—The system appears to be good, although of very little practical effect, in consequence of the smallness of the number of pensioners in the district and all of them being personally known to the Treasury Officer or the Sub-Treasury Officer.

Singbhum.—The system has not been tested owing to the pensioners being known to the Treasury Officer; it would be useful in large districts with large numbers of pensioners.

Malda.—The system has proved satisfactory. It should be extended generally to transactions with treasuries where the payees are illiterate or unknown to the Treasury Staff. As the impression can be discriminated from each other when compared closely an imposter would seldom give his impression for fear of detection by identification.

Pubna.—The system is advantageous inasmuch as it is serves a useful check upon illiterate and other persons against fraud.

Dinajpur.—No case for identification by this means has yet arisen, the pensioners being known; but a case might arise in which the system would afford an additional safeguard against fraud.

Rungpur.—The system is followed with advantage, as it compels the pensioner to attend the Treasury every time to draw his pension; it makes an attempt at fraud impossible. It should therefore be made permanent.

Nudia.—Experience shows the system to be advantageous. It has worked satisfactorily without causing any inconvenience.

Furidpur.—The system is found advantageous as it is found a very good safeguard against false personation.

Noakhali.—The system is not of any special advantage owing to smallness of the number of pensioners except being an additional precaution. It may be much useful in big districts having large numbers of pensioners.

Bhagalpur.—The system was introduced on 1st April 1897, and as the impressions have not yet been repeated, there have been no opportunities for comparing them. Owing to a large number of payments being made on the first of the month the impressions are taken in a hurry and therefore in many cases are not full, conspicuous, and clear. Identification from other particulars is quicker and easier. The system may, however, be retained as an additional precaution; it may work better after two or three years. Identification from photos is considered to be the surest and quickest method of identification,

Burdwan.—Since the introduction of the system no instance of fraud has taken place and hence its usefulness has not yet beeen practically brought into operation. The system is good and will facilitate detection of fraud and false personation. Owing to want of experience distinct impressions have not been obtained in all cases.

Birbhum.—Thumb impressions of illiterate pensioners are taken every month. All the pensioners in the District being known to the Treasury Officer no malpractice or irregularitity has been brought to light by this system.

Bankura.—The system is proved by all means the most effective, in additional to identification from personal marks which in some instances are very vague or not very accurate.

Khulna.—The pensioners being all known their identification by thumb-impressions appears to be superfluous.

Fessore.—The system has worked well; the method is easy. All the pensioners are known, but as a check against false impersonation and for identification in doubtful cases the system may be continued.

Falpaiguri.—The pensioners are all known; but the system is useful and may be continued.

Darjeeling.—The system works well.

Hazaribagh.—Thumb-impressions were taken on each occasion of payment. Difficulty is felt in comparing the impressions for want of knowledge of the principles on which to compare. The use of a magnifying glass is recommended.

Hooghly.—The system is appreciated; but in some cases the impressions become indistinct owing to defect in the preparation of ink.

Saseeram Sub-Division, Cox's Bazar Sub-Division.—The system has worked well and may be continued. The impressions are regularly taken.

Lohardugga.—The system has worked well and is useful as a [redacted] securing the identification of pensionors.

Manbhoom.—The system is working well; but it was not introduced [redacted] pore Sub-Treasury owing to the number of pensioners being only 3 or 4.

Tippera.—No particular benefit is derived by the introduction of the system as pensioners are known to the Treasury Officer, their number being small. The system will good in places where the number of pensioners is large.

Gaya.—The system is gradually being appreciated; it is likely to check fraud.

Mozafferpur.—The taking of the thumb-impression was confined to the case of illiterate pensioners. The system is expected to work as satisfactorily as in the Registration Department.

Durbhunga.—No advantage has yet been obtained from the introduction of the system. However, as experience is gained, very great advantage will accrue from it.

Palamow.—The number of pensioners is small and the pensioners are all known to the Treasury Officer; so the advantages of the system are not clearly manifest. It will do much good in the identification of new pensioners.

24-Pergunnahs.—The system has worked satisfactorily. The impressions were at first badly taken; but the defect has since been remedied. The use of a magnifying glass is needed.

Backergunge.—The number of pensioners is small and the pensioners are all known to the Treasury Officer. The impressions were at first badly taken; but improvement has since been made.

Sonthal Pergunnahs.—The system is a safeguard against fraud; it has worked well without any inconvenience to the pensioners who approve of and like it as a check against their being misrepresented.

Purnea.—The system has worked well. The impressions of all illiterate pensioners are invariably taken on pension bills, except one female Political pensioner who is exempted from personal appearance.

Chittagong.—The system has worked fairly well; the only difficulty being that illiterate pensioners do not easily acquire the delicacy of touch essential for a good impression. Upper class pensioners feel it inconvenient to soil their thumbs by being called upon to give thumb-impressions.

Midnapore.—New pensioners are identified by known persons or from the other particulars contained in the Permanent Pay Order. The system is not considered to be of material advantage in the case of pensioners who are natives of the District, but in the case of others it is likely to be useful.

Murshedabad.—The impressions were taken of all service pensioners, of male Political pensioners, and of such female Political pensioners as appear in public. Purdah females of the Nizamut family at first gave their impressions before the Nawab Bhadur of Murshebabad; but they have since been exempted by Government from giving the impression. Some of the impressions at first taken on the Collector's halves of Permanent Pay Orders were not sufficiently clear and distinct, but the defect has been rectified. Pensioners who appear personally are well known and their identification by the other particulars in the Permanent Pay Order is sufficient. Nizamut female pensioners are under the supervision of the Nawab Bhadur who grants them life certificates. Thumb impressions are, however, additional safeguard, and as the taking of them entails little trouble the system should be continued.

Cuttack.—Thumb-impressions are taken monthly on the pension bills of purdah ladies and illiterate pensioners. Difficulty is experienced in obtaining the impressions of some of the old and infirm pensioners. In one case the impression taken on the first appearance of the pensioner was found to differ from that affixed to the Permanent Pay Order. On enquiry the latter was found to be the impression of the right hand. The system is calculated to discourage fraud, and as no difficulty is experienced in working it, it should be continued.

Dacca.—The system has worked well and is likely to prevent false personation and should be extended to all kinds of payments.

Bagerhat Sub-Division.—Thumb impressions, if properly taken, seem to be an additional security for the identification of pensioners.

Rajshahi.—The system is not likely to prove of itself a sufficient guard against fraud; but it will establish fraud when detected, and as such, is a valuable check and should be continued.

Residency Press, Bangalore.—5-5-99.—30.

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No 6564 Pol: 235 dy 8/12/99

Section GOVT. OF MYSORE

File No 51-97

Serial No 570

The First Assistant

to the Resident in Mysore.

Sir,

With reference to the correspondence ending with your letter No. 4830/366-98 dated the 28th October last, I am directed to state that the system of taking finger impressions has been introduced into the Treasuries of Mysore in the case of British Govt. pensioners paid within the limits of the State, and is report-ed to be working satisfactorily. A precis of the reports on the subject, received by the Comptroller to the Govt. of Mysore from the several Dy Comrs of Districts in the Treasury Deptt., is herewith forwarded for information.

I have &c.

7-12-99

Secretary.

7/12/99